

VZCZCXYZ0008
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHFR #0865 1261146
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 051146Z MAY 08
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2906
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 6796
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN 2111
RUEHBS/AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS 6706
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 1786
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 1562
RUEHLJ/AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA 0485
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 6911
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID 2826
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO 1606
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA 2252
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE 0561
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 8835
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 1617
RUEHTV/AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV 0718
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 2973
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 2739
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW 0837
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 0408
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS 2300

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 000865

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR IO/EDA REBECCA WEBBER AND OES/ENV KERI
HOLLAND

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/05/2018

TAGS: [SENV](#) [AORC](#) [PREL](#) [EAGR](#) [EUN](#) [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [ZI](#) [FR](#)

SUBJECT: ZIMBABWE/UN COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:
FRANCE TO SEND "SENIOR BUT NOT MINISTERIAL-LEVEL"
REPRESENTATIVES

REF: STATE 40180

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Josiah Rosenblatt,
1.4 (b/d).

¶1. (C) MFA Zimbabwe desk officer Isabelle de Boisgelin on May 2 said that France would send "senior representatives" (but not at ministerial level) to the May 5-16 meeting of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD-16), to be chaired by Zimbabwe's Minister of Environment and Tourism, Francis Nhema (reftel). The two French representatives will be Christian Brodhag (Interministerial Delegate for Sustainable Development), who will lead France's delegation for the first portion of the meeting, and Laurent Stefanini (Ambassador-Delegate for the Environment), who will head the French delegation for the latter part of the meeting.

¶2. (C) Boisgelin said that France would ordinarily have sent a minister or secretary of state to head the French team at such a meeting, but that the GOF very much shared USG concerns and decided that the level of representation should be lowered. Boisgelin said that the UK also took this view and she said that the matter had been much discussed within the EU, with some EU countries, however, indicating that ministers would head their delegations.

¶3. (C) Boisgelin said that, if Francis Nhema did chair the meeting and claimed to be Zimbabwe's Minister of Environment and Tourism, France and the UK were likely to express their "reservations" to the UN. As Boisgelin explained it, neither the UK nor France considers Nhema to be a GOZ minister, in view of the unresolved elections controversy in Zimbabwe. Boisgelin said that she understood that Nhema might chair the meeting as an "advisor" rather than as a "minister," in an effort to avoid this issue.

Please visit Paris' Classified Website at:
<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/paris/index.cfm>

STAPLETON